



Quartz Ridge



Bear Creek

QUARTZ RIDGE & BEAR CREEK FIRES

September 16, 2023
Daily Update – 9:00 AM

Type 3 Team, Incident Commander: Nathan Hallam

This update will continue to occur every other day unless significant activity occurs.

Highlights: Yesterday, both the Bear Creek and Quartz Ridge Fire received scattered thunderstorms producing light rain and wind gusts up to 15+ mph throughout the day. Relative humidity levels stayed above 75%. Both fires saw little fire activity. Light smoke was observed on both the Bear Creek and Quartz Ridge Fire. With the return of clear skies and dry weather fire activity is expected to increase slightly allowing for additional smoke production.

Quartz Ridge Fire: 2,848 acres | 77% of objectives achieved | 59 personnel assigned

The increase in acreage was the result of the last active day (9/10), prior to the rain event. Firefighting crews continue to focus on improving the shaded fuel break lines on the East Fork Road. Continual improvement of the firebreak lines will be priority for Quartz Ridge fire crews with anticipation of the project continuing along the 684 road into the next two operational shifts. Rainfall totals for the last 24 hours measured 0.16”.

Bear Creek Fire: 1090 acres | 83% of objectives achieved | 22 personnel assigned

Weather conditions have slowed fire activity, allowing firefighting crews to place focus on mitigating hazards to the values at risk within the Weminuche Valley. Road conditions have deteriorated due to the rain make access to the fire difficult. Slowing fire activity and minimal smoke was observed by crews working in the area. Rainfall totals measured a total of 0.27” over the past 24 hours.

Weather: Today’s weather outlook calls for early morning cloud dispersion, giving way to a day filled with clear, sunny skies with temperatures reaching into the low to mid 60’s. Cooler temperatures and clear skies with winds gusts of 5-10mph can be expected through Sunday.

San Juan National Forest Temporary Closures: Closure orders are in effect and additional information can be found here: [Quartz Ridge Closure](#) and [Bear Creek Closure](#). Roads and trails within the Quartz Fire area are Quartz Meadows Rd (NFSR#684), Quartz Ridge Trail (NFST#570), Quartz Creek Trail (NFST#571). The trails within the Bear Creek Fire area are Little Sand Trail (NFST #591) and Shaw Creek Trail (NFST#584).

Fire Information

Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Phone: 970-426-5370

<p>Quartz Ridge Fire Email: 2023.QuartzRidge@firenet.gov InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/cosjf-quartz-ridge-fire Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095556640621</p>	<p>Bear Creek Fire Email: 2023.BearCreek@firenet.gov InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/cosjf-bear-creek-fire Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095241777192</p>
--	--